



## Essential Qualifications for the Criminal Justice (AAS) Program

The following technical standards address many of the physical, cognitive, attitudinal and behavioral abilities essential to this program. Students should meet these essential qualifications in order to be successful in the program (and future career opportunities). Students with documented disabilities who wish to request reasonable accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act must follow the college's procedure for requesting accommodations. The college reserves the right to reject requests for accommodations that would fundamentally alter the nature of an educational program, lower the academic standards, cause an undue hardship on the college, or endanger the health or safety of a student with a disability, other students, clinic patients, or any other member of the college community.

In addition, students who have a criminal history (particularly felony convictions) may encounter difficulties seeking employment in the criminal justice field.

The essential skills and abilities for these programs are categorized in the following Technical Standards:

### Sensory/Observational Skills

With or without reasonable accommodations, a candidate for this program must have sufficient sensory skills in order to observe crime scenes, suspects, large crowds, and other distractions while continuing to complete other tasks. These items could be both at a distance or in close proximity and under a variety of conditions, including bad weather, noise, and aggressive actions.

### Cognitive

With or without reasonable accommodations, a candidate for this program must have sufficient cognitive-intellectual abilities and skills in order to measure, calculate reason, analyze, integrate, and synthesize. The student must be able to read and comprehend extensive written material. Candidates should be able to reason deductively and inductively; identify objects, actions, and events; make decisions and solve problems; and document information.

### Communication

With or without reasonable accommodations, a candidate for this program must have sufficient spoken, written, and nonverbal communication skills in order to communicate effectively and sensitively with other professionals and the public. He or she must express his or her ideas and feelings clearly and demonstrate a willingness and ability to give and receive feedback. A candidate must be able to convey or exchange information at a level that allows others to understand commands or requests that may be of a life-threatening manner. The student must be able to communicate effectively in oral and written formats.



## **Motor Skills**

With or without reasonable accommodations, a candidate for this program must have sufficient motor skills in order to execute movements required to complete the various tasks related to employment in the criminal justice field such as, but not limited to running long distances, climbing and avoiding various obstacles, physical apprehension of others, operation of firearms and other self-defense tools. Students should have the ability to reach items overhead, stand for 8-12 hours, and lift heavy objects or persons. For the safety and protection of the community, the student must be able to perform basic life support, including CPR, and function in an emergency situation.

## **Environmental Tolerance**

With or without reasonable accommodations, a candidate for this program must have sufficient environmental tolerance in order to be prepared to work in a variety of conditions that could include extreme weather, loud noises, chemicals and toxins, dust, heat, and fumes, moving objects and vehicles, slippery or uneven surfaces, variations in lighting, confrontations with aggressive individuals, and activities that may cause serious injury and death.